

Fantasy Newsletter

Vol. 1 No. 1

June 1978

This is FANTASY NEWSLETTER, the first issue of a new, monthly news organ that I hope will make collecting, reading and enjoying fantasy literature just a little bit easier for the average person. Each month, FANTASY NEWSLETTER will report on what's happening currently and, more important, what's going to be happening in the months ahead. Included will be what paperback and trade publishers have planned for release over the next couple of months; what to expect from the limited edition and specialty press over the next few months and even into the next year; publications to watch for from the fan press and what's currently available from fan publishers; notes from authors about work in progress; and just about anything else that appears to be of interest to fantasy collectors. FANTASY NEWSLETTER will specialize in the more traditional forms of the genre: heroic or epic fantasy, swords & sorcery, horror, weird fiction, etc. Of necessity, though, its definition of fantasy will be as broad as possible. For every fantasy fan alive and that ever lived, there is a separate definition. The scope of FANTASY NEWSLETTER will hopefully be broad enough to encompass individual tastes and definitions of the genre.

Although I hope to make the format of FANTASY NEWSLETTER neat and attractive, don't look for fancy artwork and graphics or luxurious production values. The emphasis here is on news and the purpose is to be functional, not necessarily eye-appealing. Timeliness and accuracy are paramount. Each issue is distributed via first class mail on the 15th of the month preceding its cover date. Each issue is folded and mailed in a letter-size envelope because that is what receives priority treatment from the post office. You won't see deluxe, heavy paper used here; first class postage is expensive. Our production schedule is geared toward news, not a printer's schedule in setting fancy type. And you won't see advertising here, either; that would merely increase the size and dictate slower second class postage. News is the byword here and timeliness the key to its usefulness.

What you hold in your hands is, for me, a dream that has come true. As a fantasy collector for some 17 years now, I'm all too familiar with the frustrations of trying to keep up to date with what's happening in the realm of fantasy. Too often have I paid the price -- in dollars and in grief -- for missing a publication when it was published. The commitment has been made and FANTASY NEWSLETTER subscribers can count on seeing each issue in their mailboxes on or about the 20th of each month (barring, of course, postal strikes or my getting run over by a Mack truck). If FANTASY NEWSLETTER can save the average subscriber the grief of having to pay out-of-print prices for even one book a year, the chances are good that the savings will outweigh the cost of the newsletter. And now, the news...

Specialty Publishers

Heritage Press has been presented the Award of Excellence from the American Institute of Graphic Arts for its edition of QUEENS WALK IN THE DUSK by Thomas Burnett Swann; the \$15 volume, illustrated by Jeff Jones, is still in print. Heritage's second deluxe volume will be HEROES AND HOBGOBLINS, a collection of 94 poems by L. Sprague de Camp, with illustrated end-papers, six full color plates and other decorations by Tim Kirk. A special 300-copy edition signed by author and artist will also be made available. No price or publication date has been set as yet. Heritage also plans a collection of stories by the late Tom Reamy entitled SAN DIEGO LIGHTFOOT SUE AND OTHERS -- A MEMORIAL VOLUME. It will be a larger volume, running more than 110,000 words, with an introduction by Harlan Ellison. No price or publication date on that yet, either, but it will be a deluxe, illustrated hardcover. Also planned for late '78 and early '79 are two deluxe Robert A. Heinlein volumes illustrated in color by Kelly Freas, GLORY ROAD and STARSHIP TROOPERS. Beginning this summer, Heritage Press titles will be distributed by Athenem Publishers. Heritage Press, P. O. Box 721, Forest Park, GA 30050.

FANTASY BY FABIAN was released in early April at \$15 by Gerry de la Ree with 1,000 copies of its 1,200-copy edition pre-sold. The 128-page, 8 1/2 by 11-inches volume includes the complete contents to the "Fantastic Nudes I and II" portfolios, the entire "Letters Lovercraftian" illustrated alphabet, and about 60 additional illustrations, all reproduced in black-and-white on enamel stock. The book is undoubtedly out-of-print by now and if you want a copy, contact a dealer fast. As of early April, about 400 copies remained of EDD CARTIER; THE KNOWN AND THE UNKNOWN. The Cartier volume is priced at \$15 and is limited to 2,000 copies. Gerry de la Ree, 7 Cedarwood Lane, Saddle River, NJ 07458.

Scheduled for release at about the time this issue of FN goes to press is THE LAST MAGICIAN: NINE STORIES FROM WEIRD TALES by David H. Keller. The book is the first in a series of five matched, soft-cover volumes issued under the series title "The David H. Keller Memorial Library." Each volume reproduces previously unprinted magazine fiction by Keller in facsimile form, is limited to 1,000 copies and priced at \$5.00. The publisher is also accepting subscriptions to the five-volume series at \$20.00. The remaining volumes in the series will

include THE CONQUERORS, a 1929 novel about the survivors of a pre-human master race; THE EVENING STAR, a 1930 sequel to CONQUERORS; SEEDS OF DEATH; TALES OF FANTASY AND HORROR; and an as yet untitled collection of Keller's science fiction. No publication dates for the last four volumes have been set. Pat Adkins, P.D.A. Enterprises, Box 8010, New Orleans, LA 70182.

Arkham House has released AND AFTERWARD THE DARK, a collection of seven stories by Basil Copper, and IN MAYAN SPLENDOR, a slim anthology of Frank Belknap Long's early poetry. The former, priced at \$7.50 sports a color dust jacket by Stephen Fabian and the latter, priced at \$6.00, contains five interior plates by Stephen Fabian. Arkham House indicates they are currently running about six months behind the schedule announced a year ago. Scheduled for release in June are HALF IN SHADOW, a collection of 14 stories by Mary Elizabeth Counselman, and BORN TO EXILE, a heroic fantasy novel about Alaric the Minstrel (whose stories have previously appeared in the MAGAZINE OF F&SF) by Phyllis Eisenstein. Both volumes are priced at \$8.95. The prices noted here include recent increases: IN MAYAN SPLENDOR was originally \$5.50, HALF IN SHADOW was \$8.00 and BORN TO EXILE, \$7.50.

For several years now, Arkham House manager Roderic Meng has been urging collectors to order directly from Arkham House. He has also been warning collectors that prices will be rising and that appears to be happening now. Following are revised publication schedules for forthcoming Arkham House titles through 1979. The prices noted are "probable prices" and it is entirely likely that they will be increased on or shortly before publication. However, Arkham House is accepting and will honor paid orders at these "probable prices." Coming this Fall are: IN THE MIST AND OTHER UNCANNY ENCOUNTERS, a collection of seven stories by Elizabeth Walter, "probable priced" at \$7.50, and THE PRINCESS OF ALL LANDS, a collection of nine Gothic tales by Russell Kirk, "probable priced" at \$8.00. Releases now scheduled for Spring and Summer, 1979, are: MASTER OF SHADOWS, containing four short novels by Margery Lawrence, at \$7.50; NEW TALES OF THE CTHULHU MYTHOS edited by Ramsey Campbell and featuring new fiction by Campbell, A. A. Attanasio, Brian Lumley, Frank Belknap Long, William Wallace, Basil Copper, T. E. D. Klein, Lovecraft and Martin S. Warnes, and David Drake, priced at \$8.50; and, THE LITERATURE OF FEAR, a non-fiction historical survey of weird fiction from the Gothic to modern weird fiction by Gerald Suster, priced at \$9.00. The two-volume, slipcased edition of THE SOLAR PONS OMNIBUS by August Derleth has been delayed to late 1978 and possibly into 1979. This will contain all 68 Solar Pons tales in chronological order and will be illustrated by Frank Utpatel. "Probable price" on this is still \$25.

Arkham House titles that are very nearly out-of-print (if they aren't by now) are: MR. FAIRLIE'S FINAL JOURNEY by August Derleth, at \$5.00; WISCONSIN MURDERS by Derleth, also at \$5.00; DARK THINGS edited by Derleth, at \$7.50; and SELECTED POEMS by Clark Ashton Smith, at \$10.00.

Mark Michaud at Necronomicon Press has recently reprinted all three 1949 issues of THE LOVECRAFT COLLECTOR in a one volume 500-copy edition at \$2.50. Also available is a new edition of THE CHALLENGE FROM BEYOND, the famed 1935 fantasy round-robin by Lovecraft, Howard, Marriott, Moore and Long. It is set in new type, illustrated by Mark King and limited to 750 copies at \$5.95. Also available are two new F&SF SELF-PORTRAITS: #3, H. P. Lovecraft - MEMOIRS and #4, Eando Binder - AUTOBIOGRAPHY, priced at \$1.00 each. Finally, two new F&SF FRAGMENTS: #3, Robert E. Howard - VOICES OF THE NIGHT & OTHER POEMS and #4, Frank Belknap Long - A DANGEROUS EXPERIMENT, each at \$1.00. Opinions vary on Necronomicon Press items; some are priced a bit high for what they contain. Judge for yourself, a complete list of these and the 26 previous publications (including many by Lovecraft and a few by Howard) is available from Necronomicon Press, 101 Lockwood Street, West Warwick, RI 02893.

Coming in July from Bob Weinberg is his 18th Pulp Classic: THE FLYING SPY - A HISTORY OF G-8 by Nick Carr. The 160-page special non-fiction issue features an in-depth study of the old G-8 pulps. This is Bob's biggest Pulp Classic issue to date, limited to 500 copies and priced at \$5.50. Bob has recently reprinted his first Pulp Classic, GANGLAND'S DOOM by Frank Eisgruber Jr., a 64-page in-depth study of the Shadow pulps, featuring numerous color reproductions and a complete index to his adventures. This new edition is priced at \$5.50 and limited to 500 copies (the original sold out its 1,000-copy run shortly after publication in 1973). Due out shortly from Bob is THE WEIRD TALES COLLECTOR #3, featuring articles on WT and its writers, as well as the continuation of an issue index to WT. It is priced at \$2.00; previous issues have run 32 pages plus covers. Bob recently published PULP #10, featuring articles on the old character pulps and the first reprinting of a 1943 Avenger novelette, "Vengeance On the Avenger." It is priced at \$2.00 and runs 32 pages, plus covers. All of Bob's publications are digests in size. Robert & Phyllis Weinberg, 10606 S. Central Park, Chicago, IL 60655.

FANTASY NEWSLETTER is published monthly by Paul Allen, 1015 West 36th St., Loveland, CO 80537. Vol. 1, No. 1, June 1978 issue. Subscriptions: \$5.00 per year (12 issues) in the U. S. and Canada via first class mail; \$9.00 elsewhere via air mail. Please make checks payable to Paul Allen. Distribution date is the 15th of the preceding month. Editorial deadline is the 5th of the preceding month. No advertising. The number after your name on the envelope is the issue with which your subscription expires. If this issue is stamped "Sample Copy" you must subscribe to receive future issues. British correspondent is John Melville of Scotland. Entire contents copyright © 1978 by Paul C. Allen. All rights reserved.

Chuck Miller and Tim Underwood have published a deluxe 285-page edition of THE EYES OF THE OVERWORLD by Jack Vance with a color wraparound dust jacket, 15 full page illustrations and decorations by Stephen Fabian. Delayed several times, the book finally appeared in April in a 1,500-copy edition, of which 111 copies were offered in a numbered series, signed by author and artist. The regular edition is priced at \$15.95 and the numbered edition sold out prior to publication at \$25.00. Next on the Underwood/Miller agenda is a deluxe edition of Jack Vance's BIG PLANET, with ten full page illustrations and decorations by Steve Hickman. Press run and prices are the same as with the OVERWORLD volume; this was originally scheduled for March and has been delayed. Further down the road are limited editions of Jack Vance's four-volume Tschi series: CITY OF THE CHASCH, SERVANTS OF WANKH, THE DIRDIR and THE PNUME. Each volume will feature a color frontispiece and five full page black-and-white illustrations by Steve Ireland. Press runs are the same as with previous editions, although the unsigned editions of each are priced at \$15.00. Chuck Miller, 239 4th Street, Columbia, PA 17512.

Scheduled for release about the time this goes to press is a deluxe edition of GOLDEN BLOOD by Jack Williamson, published by Tim Underwood and Bill Ross for Tamerlane Press. The volume will feature a color dust jacket reproducing the original J. Allen St. John painting used for its original publication in WEIRD TALES and six interior black-and-white full page illustrations by Stephen Fabian. Also included is a new introduction by Jack Williamson. Published in a 1,600 copy edition at \$15.00, 150 numbered copies with a special binding and signed by author and artist are being offered at \$25.00. Tim Underwood, P. O. Box 5402, San Francisco, CA 94101.

Stuart David Schiff reports that a few slipcased and signed copies of his first book, RIME ISLE by Fritz Leiber, are still available at \$20. The regular edition, with a wraparound dust jacket and ten full page illustrations by Tim Kirk, is priced at \$10. His second volume, A WINTER WISH AND OTHER POEMS by H. P. Lovecraft and edited by Tom Collins, has sold out its slipcased edition, but remains available in the regular \$10 edition. Currently in the works are HEROES AND HORRORS by Fritz Leiber and edited by Stuart David Schiff, and THE SCALLION STONE AND OTHERS by Basil Canon Smith. The latter contains a preface by Russell Kirk and will be illustrated by Stephen Fabian. No publication dates or prices set as yet, but Stuart hopes to have them out in time for the October World Fantasycon. Also in the works are a WHISPERS II anthology and THE SECOND WORLD FANTASY AWARDS, the latter co-edited with Fritz Leiber. WHISPERS #11 (the magazine, that is) is planned for August or September and will be a special Manly Wade Wellman issue. Whispers Press, Box 1492-W, Azalea St., Browns Mills, NJ 08015.

Doubleday SF Book Club has announced for June publication THREE HAINISH NOVELS by Ursula K. Le Guin, priced for members at \$3.98. The omnibus volume contains three reprinted novels: KOCAN-NON'S WORLD, PLANET OF EXILE and CITY OF ILLUSIONS. The second selection for June is STELLAR SF STORIES #4 edited by Judy-Lynn del Rey and published by Del Rey Books in paperback in May.

Russ Cochran has delayed volume three of his EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS LIBRARY OF ILLUSTRATION until Fall, due to problems in locating some of the Frank Frazetta and Roy Krenkel art planned for inclusion. A lengthy interview with Frazetta will serve as the introduction to the volume. Russ notes that more than 1,600 copies of the 2,000-copy edition have been sold. He is still accepting orders at \$60 per volume, but warns that "the post-publication price of the complete edition (if any are left by then) will be around \$250." Russ Cochran, P. O. Box 437, West Plains, MO 65775.

Donald M. Grant is currently working on three volumes for release later this year. The first will be a third edition of RED SHADOWS by Robert E. Howard, containing his collected output of Solomon Kane stories. This will be a deluxe volume, newly typeset and newly illustrated by Jeff Jones, limited to 1,350 copies and priced at \$20. Also in the works are A CLARK ASHTON SMITH BIBLIOGRAPHY by Donald Sidney-Fryer and what Don describes as a "magnificently illustrated" edition of KING OF THE KHYBER RIFLES by Talbot Mundy. In fact, Don goes so far as to say that the Mundy volume "may very well be one of the best things I have ever done." No price or publication date available on the latter two volumes. Donald M. Grant, West Kingston, RI 02892.

Trade Publishers

Armand Eisen, of Morning Star Press, has teamed up with Ballantine Books under a joint Ariel/Ballantine imprint to produce two very striking publications that appeared in late April. One is SORCERERS, an 84-page perfect-bound portfolio of mostly full color work by Tim Conrad, Alex Nino, Steve Hickman, Michael Hague, Kenneth Smith, Brad Johansson, Bruce Jones, Jack Kirby, George Barr, Jim Steranko and Michael Whelan. It is lavishly produced, printed on heavy enamel and priced at \$7.95. The other is a 100-page ARIEL #3, printed on slightly less heavy enamel, but just as lavishly produced at \$6.95. Contents include a new Elric story by Michael Moorcock, entitled "The Last Enchantment," "Jim Crocker, Prince of Atlantis" by Peter Jackson, "The Halls of the Frost Giants" by Alexander Heart, "East of the Sun" by David James, "The Awakening" by John Praetorius, "The Maiden and the Dragon" by Bruce Jones, "Mozatlan" by Michael Sollers and Peter Jackson, and a rare Larry Niven fantasy entitled "Transfer of Power." Also featured are interviews with Frank Herbert and Barry Smith, and an adaptation of Harlan Ellison's "Along the Scenic Route" illustrated by Al Williamson. Other artists featured include Barry Smith, Tim Conrad, Jack Kirby and a number of lesser-known, but highly talented artists. Most of the art is in color and production and graphics are outstanding.

Del Rey Books has announced several new fantasy titles scheduled for publication in its new hardcover line. In June, watch for THE WHITE DRAGON by Anne McCaffrey, priced at \$8.95. Coming in September is a new epic fantasy by Clifford Simak entitled THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE TALISMAN, which takes place in a medieval 20th century Earth. The hero of the novel is Duncan Standish, who is entrusted with the protection of a priceless manuscript, allegedly a record of the words spoken daily by Christ. His mission is to get the manuscript to a scholar in Oxenford who is the only person capable of translating the ancient Aramaic language. Price will be \$8.95. Coming in October, at \$9.95, is SAINT CAMBER by Katherine Kurtz. This is the fifth volume in her Deryni series (the first in hardcover) and the second volume in her Camber of Culdri trilogy. Del Rey reports that the first four Deryni books have sold more than 600,000 copies in paperback since 1970.

Newcastle Publishing Company has recently added two new titles to its "Forgotten Fantasy" library: THE FATES OF THE PRINCES OF DYFED by Kenneth Morris (first published in 1914) and THE HOUSE OF THE WOLFINGS by William Morris (1888). Both are quality paperbacks priced at \$3.95. Due out shortly under the Borgo Press imprint is THE WINGS OF MADNESS: A NOVEL OF CHARLES BAUDELAIRE by Geoffrey Wagner, priced at \$3.95. Borgo is also issuing five new titles in its "Millford Series." Of interest to fantasy collectors are: Vol. 12, THE DREAM QUEST OF H. P. LOVECRAFT by Barrell Schwelltz; Vol. 13, WORLDS BEYOND THE WORLD: THE FANTASTIC VISION OF WILLIAM MORRIS by Richard Mathews; and Vol. 15, LIGHTNING FROM A CLEAR SKY: TOLKIEN, THE TRILOGY, AND THE SILMARILLION by Richard Mathews. Vol. 14 is FRANK HERBERT: PROPHECY OF DUNE by George Edgar Slusser and Vol. 16 is I. ASIMOV: THE FOUNDATIONS OF HIS SCIENCE FICTION by Slusser. All are uniform in format, 64 pages in quality paperback, priced at \$2.45.

Moon Books, "a women's publishing company committed to making a wide variety of feminist material available in the general market," recently published a title of interest to fantasy writers as well as readers. LOST GODDESSES OF EARLY GREECE by Charlene Spretnak is an attempt at reconstructing pre-Hellenic religion, briefly examining a number of goddesses that flourished in early Greek mythology. It is a well-written, extensively-referenced retelling of much of Greek mythology from a women's point of view. The 128-page quality paperback is priced at \$4.95 and nicely illustrated by Edidt Geever.

Due out shortly from Doubleday is SWORD FOR THE EMPIRE by Gene Lancour (Fisher), the third volume in his Dirshan series. The previous two volumes in this heroic fantasy series were THE WAR MACHINES OF KALINTH (1977) and THE LERIOS MECCA (1973). Scheduled for June release is SHALLONS OF NIGHT by Eric Van Lustbader, the sequel to THE SUNSET WARRIOR published last year by Doubleday. Also due out shortly is MASTERS OF SOLITUDE by Marvin Kave and Parke Godwin, which ran as a 4 part serial in condensed form in GALILEO. The Lancour and Lustbader books are priced at \$6.95; MASTERS is \$7.95.

Other fantasy volumes recently published include: QUAG KEEP by Andre Norton (Atheneum, \$7.95), a novel that combines heroic fantasy and fantasy wargaming; EAST OF MIDNIGHT by Tanith Lee (St. Martin's, \$7.95); and DREAMSNAKE by Vonda McIntyre (HOUGHTON MIFFLIN, \$8.95), whose previous stories about Snake the healer appeared in ANALOG.

Paperbacks

DAW Books will be releasing a number of fantasy titles throughout the Summer months, with the emphasis on heroic fantasy. Leading off the June releases is Marion Zimmer Bradley's newest Darkover novel, STORMQUEEN, along with a new interplanetary heroic fantasy novel by Lin Carter, THE WIZARD OF ZAO. The two remaining June releases appear to be science fantasies. Bar- rington J. Bayley's STAR WINDS is described thusly: "With either silk they were able to sail before the molecular winds of outer space, Rachad, the alchemist's apprentice, set out for Mars by windjammer--and found himself heading for the stars themselves." A. Bertram Chandler's TO KEEP THE SHIP is about a ship commander (spaceship, that is) plagued with "cannibalistic miniatures of a pirate queen."

Coming in July from DAW is a heroic fantasy novel by a new author, Ansen Dibell, entitled PUR-SUIT OF THE SCREAMER. Also scheduled are E. C. Tubb's newest Dumarest novel, INCIDENT ON ATH, and THE YEAR'S BEST HORROR STORIES, SERIES VI edited by Gerald W. Page and featuring stories by Stephen King, Tanith Lee, Michael Bishop, Russell Kirk and C. L. Grant, among others. Finally, THE ISLAND SNATCHERS, by George H. Smith, in which hijackers steal old Ireland. "A wild and wacky novel of super-science and other-world Gaelic witchcraft."

August releases from DAW will include THE FADED SUN; KESRITH by C. J. Cherrvth (recently serialized in GALAXY); CAPTIVE SCORPIO by Alan Burt Akers, his 17th Dray Prescott volume; HOOR OF THE HORDE by Gordon R. Dickson, a novel of interstellar war; and another new author, A. E. Sila, with THE PANDORA EGG, about a Middle Earth-like world contained in an egg.

June will see the first paperback printing of Andre Norton's TREY OF SWORDS from Ace Books, a collection of three Witch World stories published in hardcover last year by Grosset & Dunlap. Seven earlier Norton titles are being reissued with distinctive matching cover designs and a special Andre Norton logo: THE DEFIANT AGENTS, GALACTIC DERELICT, STAR BORN, CROSSROADS OF

TIME, SARGASSO OF SPACE, SECRET OF THE LOST RACE and MOON OF THREE RINGS. WAYFARER is a paperback original by Dennis Schmidt, expanding upon "The Way of the Sword" series he began in GALAXY a couple of years back. A long-awaited reprint coming in June is Alan Garner's popular heroic fantasy, THE WEIRSTONE OF BRISINGAMEN. Also slated is Robert Sheekley's humorous MINDSWAP, originally a novella in a 1965 GALAXY issue. The hero of the novel exchanges bodies through the brokerage firm of Otis, Blanders and Klient (Otis Adelbert Kline) in the hopes of seeing such wonders as the "Burrows of Mars." The 6th annual collection of BEST SF STORIES OF THE YEAR edited by Gardner Dozois will contain fiction by Ursula K. Le Guin, Kate Wilhelm and Joe Haldeman, among others.

Coming in July from Ace is CORIOLANUS, THE CHARIOT, a paperback original by Alan Yates that takes place on the planet Thesbos, where the "Word of Shakespeare" is law. Also scheduled is the first issue of DESTINIES, the new paperback/magazine/original anthology series edited by James Baen; featured are articles and fiction by such authors as Poul Anderson, Roger Zelazny, Larry Niven, Jerry Pournelle, Spider Robinson and Clifford Simak. Fantasy reprints for July include: THE FACELESS MAN by Jack Vance (also known as THE ANOME), Alexei Panshin's RITE OF PASSAGE, and THE GREAT TIME MACHINE HOAX by Keith Laumer. Other July SF releases include: EXILES TO GLORY by Jerry Pournelle, ALIEN EMBASSY by Ian Watson and GATEWAY TO NEVER and THE INHERITORS (both in one volume) by A. Bertram Chandler.

Dell releases of interest for June are headlined by Richard A. Lupoff's SPACE WAR BLUES, with an introduction by Harlan Ellison. Excerpts of this appeared as "With the Bentfin Boomer Boys On Little Old New Alabama" in AGAIN, DANGEROUS VISIONS and as "Our Own Little Mardi Grass" in HEAVY METAL #5. Dell is promoting it as "an action-packed futuristic fantasy/satire written in a style reminiscent of Kurt Vonnegut and William Burroughs." Also on the June schedule is 13 MORE STORIES THEY WOULDN'T LET ME DO ON TV by Alfred Hitchcock, featuring stories by Robert Bloch, Ray Bradbury, John Collier, Stanley Ellin and Richard Connell, among others. Finally, a reprint of Michael Chrichton's THE ANDROMEDA STRAIN. Two recent quality paperbacks published by Dell under the Delta imprint are KINGDOMS OF ELPIN, a collection of stories by Sylvia Townsend Warner, and DARK IMAGININGS, an anthology of Gothic fantasy edited by Robert Bover and Kenneth Zahorski.

Ballantine/Del Rey Books will be publishing a series of four Alan Quartermain novels by H. Rider Haggard during the summer: WISDOM'S DAUGHTER in June, SHE AND ALLAN in July, SHE in August, and AYESHA, THE RETURN OF SHE in September. Coming in August and billed as "The Fantasy Event of the Year" is LORD POUL'S BANE by Stephen R. Donaldson, backed by a strong promotional campaign. THE ILEARTH WAR and THE POWER THAT PRESERVES will follow in early 1979. On tap for June release is THE BEST OF JACK WILLIAMSON with an introduction by Frederik Pohl.

Coming from Zebra in June is a new swords & sorcery hero: ORON by David C. Smith. Oron is a Conan-like barbarian wanderer who decides to become civilized and now "kills for gold, and all the wine and women it can buy." The book sports a nice Clyde Caldwell cover. Also scheduled for June release from Zebra is a reprint of 200 MILLION A.D. (also known as THE BOOK OF PTATH) by A. E. Van Vort. In May, Zebra published the first paperback edition of a 1953 hardcover anthology, SCIENCE & SORCERY, edited by Garrett Ford. It features stories by Ray Bradbury, Henry Hasse, Stanton A. Coblentz, Arthur J. Burks and a dozen others.

Author Notes

L. Sprague de Camp writes that his first new Conan volume is in press at Bantam, as of early April. The title is CONAN THE SWORDSMAN and consists of seven stories and an article, written with Lin Carter and Bjorn Nyberg. Next on the agenda is a novel, CONAN THE LIBERATOR, written in collaboration with Lin Carter. "The projected biography of Robert E. Howard by Dr. Jane Whittington Griffin and me is also coming along well," he reports. "My wife and I recently returned from our second research trip to Texas, in the course of which we lectured at Howard Payne University in Brownwood, where Robert Howard once took commercial courses in the business school."

Andrew J. Offutt has written a Conan novella, CONAN AND THE SORCERER, which will be expanded into a full length book with the addition of fifty illustrations. It is scheduled for publication in October by Ace and another volume is currently in the works. His fifth Cormac mac Art novel is entitled TOWER OF DEATH and was written in collaboration with Keith Taylor. This follows MISTS OF DOOM and precedes TIGERS OF THE SEA by Robert E. Howard. He plans at least two more novels in the series.

Offutt has also been hard at work creating a new fantasy hero, Jarik, about whom three novels will be appearing from Jove Books: THE IRON LORDS, THE LADY OF THE SNOWMIST and THE CERULEAN HAWK. "The series is 'The War Among the Gods on the Earth,'" he notes. "It takes place long, loonnnnnnn ago, and combines sf, fantasy/heroic fantasy and some interesting special effects (such as out-of-the-body experiences and flashforwards)." The first novel has been completed and is at Jove. For a sneak preview of Jarik, see WEIRD ADVENTURES #1 and THE MANY WORLDS OF JACK VANCE #2 noted in "The Fan Press" section this issue.

The British Scene

In March, Corgi Books published the first paperback volume in a new swords & sorcery series by **Richard Kirk**, **RAVEN: SWORDMISTRESS OF CHAOS**. Due out shortly are two more books in the series: **A TIME OF GHOSTS** and **A FROZEN GOD**. Other recent paperback releases include: **THE MALACIA TAP-ESTRY** by **Brian Aldiss**, published by Panther; **Eric Ericson's THE SORCERER**, from New English Library; **Anne McCaffrey's DINOSAUR PLANET**, published by Orbit; and **HARKFAST**, by **Hue Rae**, published by Sphere (and available in the U.S. only in hardcover from **St. Martin's**). Millington has issued a hardcover edition of **THE MARK OF MERLIN** by **Anne McCaffrey**. New English Library has recently published a hardcover collection of **Stephen King's** short fiction entitled **NIGHT SHIFT**. Allison & Busby has issued a hardcover collection of **Michael Moorcock's GLORIANA**. Due out in September from **Pierrot** is **ELRIC AT THE END OF TIME**, a comedy by **Moorcock** in which **Elric** travels to the End of Time. **Pierrot** is also scheduled to publish **Moorcock's** critical book on fantasy, **HEROIC DREAMS, ENCHANTED WORLDS**, in October. Sorry this section is so brief this time around; we'll try to do better in the future.

The Fan Press

W. Paul Ganley has published his 10th anniversary issue of **WEIRDBOOK** (#13), a massive 100-page perfect-bound volume with stiff covers. Contents include a new Voldal tale by **Adrian Cole**, "All Things Dark and Evil," "The Man Who Saw No Spiders" by **Brian Lumley**, "The Stairway in the Sea" by **H. Warner Munn**, "Within the Walls of Tyre" by **Michael Bishop**, "The Way Through the Wood" by **Daphne Castell**, "The Man With the Silver Eyes" by **Gerald W. Page**, "Shape in the Shadows" by **Basil Wells**, "Something Small, Something Hungry" by **Eddy C. Bertin**, and additional stories by **Charles R. Saunders**, **Darrell Schweitzer**, **Paul Collins** and **William Tredinnick**. Also featured is poetry by **Robert E. Howard**, **Brian Lumley**, **Joseph Payne Brennan** and ten others. Some of the artists featured are **Stephen Fabian**, **Jim Pitts**, **D. Bruce Berry** and **Gene Day**. #13 is priced at \$5. A hardcover edition, limited to 160 copies, is also available at \$15. Copies of **WEIRDBOOK** #11 and #12 are still available, 64 pages each and priced at \$3 each. **WEIRDBOOK** #1, 4, and 6 through 10 are also available, 32 pages each and priced at \$1 per copy, but quantities on these issues are very low. **W. Paul Ganley**, Box 35, Amherst Branch, Buffalo, NY 14226.

W. Paul Ganley also publishes limited edition single-author anthologies. His latest is **THE GOTHIC HORROR AND OTHER WEIRD TALES**, a collection of 13 stories by **George T. Wetzel**. The volume features eight full page illustrations by **Tim Kirk** and runs 64 pages, plus stiff covers, perfect bound. It is priced at \$4 and a 250-copy edition in hardcover is available at \$13.50. Copies of **Paul's** previous book, **HOLLOW FACES, MERCILESS MOONS** by **William Scott Home**, are still available. The 100-page volume features 11 stories by **Home** and is profusely illustrated by **Stephen Fabian**. \$5 in softcover and \$15 in hardcover. Next on the agenda is an as-yet untitled collection of stories by **James William Hurt**. The regular edition will be priced at \$5 and the limited hardcover edition at \$15, although **Paul** is accepting advance orders at 20% off those prices. Press run on all of these editions is 1,000 copies in softcover and 250 in hardcover.

Jonathan Bacon's FANTASY CROSSROADS #13 is scheduled for publication in June, featuring two more chapters in the **Robert E. Howard** round-robin novel, **GENSERIC'S FIFTH-BORN SON**. Chapter 7 is "Lord General of Nemedia" by **Andrew J. Offutt** and chapter 8 is "The Oath of Agha Jungghaz" by **Manly Wade Wellman**. Also included is "The Invaders," the first reprinting of a Cthulhu Mythos story by **Henry Kuttner**, and a lengthy article on **Michael Moorcock's 'Champion Eternal'** saga. This issue incorporates material originally planned for **FANTASY CROSSWINDS** #4 and **FANTASAE** #2. Consequently, it is heavy on poetry, with verse by **Robert E. Howard**, **James Wade**, **Tevis Clyde Smith**, **Richard L. Tierney**, **Edith Orutsch** and numerous others. Artists include **Stephen Fabian**, **Ken Barr** and **Gene Day**, among others. The 44-page issue is completely typeset and priced at \$3. **Jonathan Bacon**, Stygian Isle Press, P. O. Box 12428, Shawnee Mission, KS 66212.

WEIRD ADVENTURES is a new fantasy magazine edited by **Robert Fester**, whose first issue is slated for publication in late May. Primarily devoted to heroic fantasy, it will feature a 4,000-word lead story entitled "At the Beach," a Jarik adventure by **Andrew J. Offutt**. A highlight of the issue will be an article on **Robert E. Howard** as a college fictioneer written by **Bill Celis**, current editor of the **Howard University YELLOW JACKET**. **WEIRD ADVENTURES** will be 8 by 7 inches in size, between 40 and 50 pages, and is priced at \$1.75. The first issue is limited to 300 copies. (Incidentally, all fan press items mentioned here are off-set and 8 1/2 by 11 unless otherwise noted.) **Robert Fester**, 602 White St., Carmi, IL 62821.

Upcoming from **Clifford Bird** at **Simba Reproductions** is **SIMBA** #2, a special **Robert E. Howard** issue scheduled for publication in time for the October World Fantasycon. Featured will be a new **Simba** tale by **Cliff**, "The Dweller of Klond" with an introduction by **Tevis Clyde Smith**; articles on **Robert E. Howard** by **Karl Edward Wagner**, **Harold Preece** and **Charles R. Saunders**; verse by **L. Sprague de Camp**, **Tevis Clyde Smith**, **Winona Nation** and others; and art by **Cliff**, **Stephen Fabian**, **Clyde Caldwell** and others. Price is \$3 plus 60¢ postage. **Cliff** currently has a number of limited edition prints and a portfolio of his own work available. "Forbidden Worlds of Fantasy" #2 is a 6-plate portfolio of "Star Wars" scenes in an illustrated envelope, limited to 300 copies and priced at \$4. Limited edition black-and-white prints include: a 200-copy, 11 by 17 print of **Arnold Schwarzenegger** as **Conan**, at \$2; two 500-copy, 11 by 14 prints from "Star Wars" at \$1.50 each; and a 300-copy, 11 by 14 print of a barbarian woman on a horse, at

\$1.50. Clifford Bird, Simba Reproductions, 616 Livingston, Hurst, TX 76053. Add 60¢ for postage on all orders.

Fans of Marion Zimmer Bradley's Darkover novels should be very much interested in the publishing activities of an organization that calls itself "Friends of Darkover." In January, they issued STARSTONE #1, a 70-page magazine edited by MZB and Walter Breen. In addition to articles about Darkover, it features the following stories: "Darkover Summer Snow" by Eileen Ledbetter, "A Meeting in the Hyades" by MZB, "Fragment from 'The Spell Sword'" by Paul Edwin Zimmer (MZB's brother and a section omitted from the book), "Adjustment" by Jacqueline Lichtenberg, "The Keeper's Price" by MZB and Lisa Waters, and an article/story by Marci Segal entitled "Field Notes on Intimate Relationships." Still in print and priced at \$2.50. The second issue is due out in July. Other publications available include: THE DARKOVAN LANGUAGE REVIEW with articles by MZB, C. J. Cherryh, Randall Garrett, and others, priced at \$3; THE BALLAD OF HASTUR and CASSILDA by MZB, at \$1; COSTUME AND CLOTHING AS A CULTURAL INDEX ON DARKOVER by Diana Paxson and MZB, at \$2; and THE DARKOVER COOKBOOK by MZB, at \$1.50. Friends of Darkover, Box 72, Berkeley, CA 94701.

Fantasy writer Charles Saunders is now editing his own heroic fantasy magazine, DRAGONBANE. His first issue, published in late April, features "Sleeping Tiger" by Tanith Lee, "From Under the Hills" by David Madison, "Wings Over Antar" by Charles de Lint, "How Darkness Came to Carcosa" by Galad Eliflandsson, and a new Imaro tale by Saunders, "Turkhana Knives." The 64-page issue also includes an article on Clark Ashton Smith and the first in a series of discussions on "Continuing the Characters of Robert E. Howard." Nicely produced with artwork by Gene Day, John Charette, Clifford Bird, Dave Sim and others. Price is \$3 plus 50¢ postage from: Triskell Press, Box 9480, Ottawa, Ontario K1G 3V2, Canada.

Also available from Charles R. Saunders are two issues of STARDOCK, published by the Ottawa SF Society. Each is digest size, 504 pages and priced at \$1.25. While primarily SF oriented, each issue features some fantasy, including fiction by Saunders. Charles R. Saunders, Box 193, Postal Station B, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 6C4, Canada.

Robert Offutt has published his second issue of THE MANY WORLDS OF JACK VANCE, featuring "The Secret" by Jack Vance (its first U.S. publication), "Hero" by Andrew J. Offutt (his first story about Jarik), "The Smile of Cyrena" by Glen Singer, and an article on Vance's 'Durdane' stories. The highlight of the issue is a beautifully illustrated graphic interpretation of "The Overworld" from EYES OF THE OVERWORLD, with text and artwork (by Rod Wigham) on opposing pages. The 64-page issue is priced at \$3. Robert Offutt, 484-H White Oak, Pinson, AL 35126.

ELDRITCH TALES #3, a digest size, 112-page heroic fantasy and weird fiction magazine was published in April by Crispin Burnham. The contents include: "Sword of the Seven Suns" by Edward P. Berglund, "The Creatures" by Richard L. Tierney, "And the Earth Brought Forth" by William Scott Home, "Dreams of the Dreamer" by Joseph Hammon (part 1 of 2 parts) and "The Minneiska Incident" by Phillip and G. Arthur Rahman. Additional features include poetry and book reviews, with art by Michael Martin, John Tibbets and Jude Falkerson. Priced at \$3.50, perfect-bound and typeset. Crispin Burnham, 1051 Wellington Road, Lawrence, KS 66044.

THE DIVERSIFIER #25, just out, is a special tribute to "The Golden Age" priced at \$2.50 and running 76 digest-size pages. Fiction includes "Sun Thief" by Earl Kennedy and first reprintings of stories by H. Warner Munn, Frank Belknap Long, Mack Reynolds and Fredric Brown, and Ross Rocklynne. Also featured are interviews with Ray Bradbury and Clifford Simak and articles by Poul Anderson, Harry Harrison, A. Bertram Chandler and James Gunn. Cover by Stephen Fabian. Single issues are normally \$1.50 and subscriptions, 6 issues for \$6. Chet Clingan, P. O. Box 1836, Oroville, CA 95965. Published bi-monthly.

NYCTALOPS #14 appeared in late April from Harry Morris, Jr., at Silver Scarab Press. Stories in this issue include "The Sun of God" by Glen Rahman and a continuation of Edgar Allan Poe's 'The Light-House' by Richard L. Tierney, along with verse by Brian Lumley, Neal Wilgus, G. Sutton Breiding and numerous others. Articles by L. Sprague DeCamp, Eddy C. Bertin, Neal Wilgus, Dirk Mosig and George Wetzell, among others, cover such subjects as H. P. Lovecraft, Ambrose Bierce, John Uri Lloyd's ETIDORPHA, European Gothic literature and a host of other fantasy subjects. Art is by Stephen Fabian, Steve Riley and numerous others, enhanced by editor Morris' usually excellent approach to graphics and designs (Harry does his own printing). The 56-page issue is priced at \$2 and Harry is again accepting subscriptions at \$3 for two issues. Still available are NYCTALOPS #13 at \$2 and the massive #11/12 double issue at \$4. Harry Morris, Jr., Silver Scarab Press, 500 Wellesley S.E., Albuquerque, NM 87106. Also available from Silver Scarab are: DRAWINGS CLOSE TO THE GRAVE, a 23-plate portfolio by Denis Tiani at \$5; THE WINDS OF ZARR, a 78-page novel by Richard L. Tierney, at \$4.50; THE READER'S GUIDE TO THE CTHULHU MYTHOS, an 88-page compilation by Robert Weinberg and Edward P. Berglund, at \$5; and THE LAST OF THE ROMANTIC POETS, a 32-page study of Clark Ashton Smith by Donald Sidney-Fryer, at \$1.

Spectre Press has issued its second issue of CTHULHU, edited by Jon M. Harvey and illustrated by Jim Pitts. Featured this time is an issue-long weird fiction tale by Brian Mooney, "The Guardians of the Gates." Price is \$1 per copy, digest size and 24 pages plus enamel covers. Spectre Press, 37 Hawkins Lane, Burton-on-Trent, Staffs., DE14 1PT, U.K.

After nearly a year's hiatus, John DiPrete has returned with **BLACK LITE** #4/5, a double issue running 48 pages and priced at \$2.50. Fiction included in this issue is "Angel's Gambit" by D. Skov, "Last Redwood" by Davida McLean, "Black Market Tape" by Ken Hahn, "Ghost Food" by A. K. Molnar and "Cold Sea" by Kenneth Huff. Also featured is an article on British and American SF, plus book reviews and a letter column. John DiPrete, 45 Vale Ave., Cranston, RI 02910.

DARK FANTASY #15 appeared in April from Gene Day featuring five new stories: "Light Lost" by Ken Hahn, "Nightfear" by Galad Eliflandsson, "City of Blood" by Wayne Hooks, "The Trouble With Timothy" by David Madison and "The Fane of Death" by Kenneth Huff. Art is by Gene Day, Larry Dickison, John Charette, Tim Hammell and Joe Ersilavas. Distributed free with this issue is a 4-page newsletter about Charles R. Saunders, **DRUMS OF NYAMBANI**. **DARK FANTASY** is digest size, 40 pages and priced at \$1 per copy; subscriptions are \$5 for 5 issues. Gene Day, Box 207, Gananogue, Ontario K7G 2T7, Canada.

SF REVIEW #25 appeared in early May from Richard E. Geis (actually Alter Ego, who has taken over things completely). This one is a huge 96-page issue on newsprint featuring interviews with George Scithers, Ursula K. Le Guin, Poul Anderson and Forrest J. Ackerman, along with a speech by Ray Palmer and lots of letters and reviews. Perhaps the most newsworthy item in the issue is part one of Geis's novel, **ONE IMMORTAL MAN** (which has been sold to a British publisher, but not in the U.S.). With issue, **SF REVIEW** goes bimonthly and subscription rates are \$7.50 a year for 6 issues. #26 will be out in July. In addition, editor Geis is removing his current events commentary in **SFR** and it will appear in a new magazine, **RICHARD E. GEIS. REG** will be published irregularly, will run 10 pages in a diary format and will be restricted to current events commentary. Price is 60¢ an issue or subscriptions at 5 issues for \$3, via first class mail. The extra space in **SFR** will be used for letters. Richard E. Geis, P. O. Box 11408, Portland, OR 97211.

EVERMIST #14 from David and Marjorie Warren features "Perfect Angels" by Albert Manachino, "The Golden Glow" by David Warren, "The Perfect Haunted House" by J. T. McDaniel and "Survival of the Fittest" (part 1) by Ken Parker, along with verse by Joey Froelich and Wendelessen. Digest size, 32 pages and priced at 75¢. Published quarterly and subscriptions are 4 for \$3. David R. Warren, P. O. Box 27, LaBelle, FL 33935.

Random Notes

This is where I cover late-breaking news or briefly mention items I would like to have covered in greater detail. A letter received today from Tim Underwood notes that **GOLDEN BLOOD** will be published in late June. **BIG PLANET** and **CITY OF THE CHASCH** will follow in July. Also scheduled for June is a complete bibliography of Jack Vance's works. Tim didn't give me any details on the bibliography, so you'll have to write him if you're interested. // **SF Book Club** has announced a \$1.98 member's edition of **THE HOSTAGE OF ZIR** by L. Sprague de Camp for July. Also available are member's editions of T. H. White's **THE ONCE AND FUTURE KING** and **THE BOOK OF MERLYN**, priced at \$4.50 each or \$7.99 for both. **SF Book Club**, Garden City, NY 11535. // Edgar Rice Burroughs fans will want to pick up **POOM** #20 for Winter 1978. This is a special Edgar Rice Burroughs issue of the "Friends of 'Ol Marvel" club publication with color covers devoted to **ERB**, articles and interviews and a lot of artwork, both new and reprinted. Check a comic shop in your area or a recent **Marvel** comic book for details. // **THE DRAGON** is a monthly 32-page fantasy wargaming magazine published by **TSR Hobbies** (Box 110, Lake Geneva, WI 53147) that usually features some heroic fantasy. #11 had a new **Fafhrd & the Mouser** tale by Fritz Leiber, #12 an excerpt from **QUAG KEEP** by Andre Norton and #13, a story by Gardner Fox. #15 will begin a reprint of "The Green Magician" by de Camp and Pratt. \$1.50 a copy or 12 issues for \$18.

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Actually, this is only the beginning for **FANTASY NEWSLETTER**, although the end of this issue. I realize this first issue looks a little rough, but I am hopeful I can go to a selectric type within the next few issues. When I started this, I wasn't sure if I could fill eight pages with news. Most of what you have read here was communicated to me during the past month and I have more than a page of material that will have to wait until next issue. Add to that the fact that there are many publishers, editors, authors and other people I have yet to hear from. If you happen to be one of those people, please let me hear from you with news of your activities. In the meantime, my thanks to the many people who responded to my initial flyer.

About 500 of you are receiving this as a free sample. If so, your copy is stamped "Sample Copy" and you will have to subscribe to receive future issues. The rates appear on page 2. **FANTASY NEWSLETTER** #2 will be dated July and will be in the mails (via first class) no later than June 15th. It will feature lots more news and, possibly, a special report on **Whispers Press**. If you want to receive that issue on schedule, send in a subscription before you start sending away for all of the other goodies mentioned here.

When sending away for publications mentioned here, please tell them you read about the publication in **FANTASY NEWSLETTER**; it will help keep the news coming in. If you are merely requesting information, a self-addressed, stamped envelope will usually help speed the reply. And, if you have any news -- even updates on previously reported news -- send it in to **FANTASY NEWSLETTER**. See you next month!